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Amish Settlements across America: 2013

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Abstract

This short research report is based upon previous editions of “Amish Settlements across North America,” which was published periodically in *Family Life*. It accounts for new settlements founded since the last edition (2008), as well as settlements which are recently extinct. The information is presented in a series of six tables, including a list of all Amish settlements as of September 30, 2013 (Table 1). Table 2 summarizes the number of settlements and church districts in each state, while Tables 3 and 4 shows trends in settlement increases, decade by decade, since 1900. Table 5 is a list of settlements which became extinct between 2009 and September 30, 2013. Finally, Table 6 describes 15 facts about Amish settlements – past and present – plus, a projection about future settlement growth. We include a map showing the geographic distribution of settlements across Canada and the United States.

Keywords

doubling time, settlement, settlement growth, Amish

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The last published directory of Amish settlements included all known communities, as of December 2008 (Luthy 2009). At that time, there were 402 settlements and 1,735 church districts. This new list shows 472 Amish settlements and 2,012 church districts through September 2013. In the short period of four years and nine months—45 months in all—there has been a net increase of 70 settlements and 277 church districts.

The increase in the number of church districts reflects the continual growth of the Amish population. The increase in the number of settlements reflects the need for affordable land / real estate to accommodate the rising population. One estimate places the current doubling time (i.e., the time it takes a population to double in size) of the Amish at 21.25 years (Donnermeyer and Cooksey 2010). Family size and the high percentage of daughters and sons who decide to be baptized in the Amish faith when they reach the age of decision are the two most immediate factors that explain this growth (Donnermeyer and Cooksey 2010). However, behind these two facts are more fundamental reasons associated with religious values and the gulf between mainstream North American society and the ways Amish church and community are organized.

For this article, we maintain the same definition of an Amish settlement used in previous editions of the *Amish Settlements across America* series, printed and distributed by Pathway Publishers:

To be included in this directory, a new settlement must initially have at least three resident households—or two, if one household head is in the ministry. Each new settlement will either soon grow or falter and disband. Formerly active settlements are not included if church services are no longer held, even though a few families or members may still reside there (Luthy 2009, 1).

Although as little as two or three families may seem to some to hardly constitute an active settlement, the definition has a decided advantage. There is little room for interpretation when the number of households is set at so low a threshold, because the real focus should not be on numbers, but on the ability of a fledging community to hold a church service. For example, would five families or 10 families be better cut-offs? We think not! Also maintained are two other features from previous editions of *Amish Settlements across America*:

...to be included in this directory, the settlement must forbid ownership of motor vehicles and use the name 'Amish'. Thus, included are not merely standard Old Order Amish settlements, but New Order Amish, Swartzentruber Amish, Troyer Amish, Nebraska Amish, and even small splinter groups. The only time that distinctions are made in the directory's state-by-state listing is when two types of Amish establish separate settlements at the same location (Luthy 2009, 2).

However, we do not include groups considered to be "para-Amish" (Waldrep 2008)² such as the plain communities at Bergholz, Ohio; Caneyville and Hestand, Kentucky; and Lobelville, Tennessee.

Finally, we adhere to the same conservative approach to the list of Amish communities adopted in previous editions of *Amish Settlements across America*. Again, to quote:

Caution should always be used before declaring a shrinking settlement as extinct. Undoubtedly, there are a few in this directory which may be nearing extinction, but a ‘wait and see’ policy is always best. Caution must also be used to avoid including a new settlement which actually does not qualify. Such a mistake occurred in the 2003 directory when Oakfield, Wisconsin was shown as having been founded in 1998. It was included because the Kingston, Wisconsin scribe referred to it as ‘a new settlement.’ When later contacted about its existence, he said that only one family had ever moved there. He explained that ‘more had plans, but they never materialized.’ The one family there soon moved back to the Kingston community. Thus, Oakfield never really was a settlement. Nor was Hiseville, Kentucky which also was mistakenly included in the 2003 directory (Luthy 2009, 2).

Included in this report are six tables that summarize both past and recent developments in the spread of Amish settlements throughout North America.

Table 1 is a list of existing settlements, state by state, including the year a community was founded and the estimated number of church districts associated with each settlement. For church district estimates, we relied on two primary sources. One was reports from scribes about “statistics for this community” as found in *The Budget*, *Die Botschaft*, and *The Diary*. The other was the most recent edition of *The New American Almanac 2013* (Raber 2012), which includes a list of church leaders for most, but not all, church districts.

Communities range from as far east as Fort Fairfield, Maine, and as far south as Pinecraft, Florida. The settlement near Rexford, Montana, has a dual distinction. It is the northernmost Amish settlement, with a latitude greater than both the Englehart or Earlton settlements in Ontario. It is also the westernmost Amish community, with a longitude greater than the recently founded settlement near Salmon, Idaho.

Displayed in Table 2 is a summary of Amish settlements, along with the number of church districts for each state / province. Altogether, Amish settlements can be found in 30 U.S. states and the Canadian province of Ontario. Pennsylvania has the largest number of settlements (55), followed closely by Ohio (54), but Ohio has more church districts. An estimate of the number of Amish living in those two states for 2010, which can be found in an article from the first issue of the *Journal of Amish and Plain Anabaptist Studies* (Donnermeyer, Anderson, and Cooksey 2012), also estimated their populations to be very close in size.

By number of settlements, New York now ranks third, with 50, but by number of church districts, Indiana is far ahead of the Empire State. The reason is simple: Indiana includes 5 large settlements (all founded in the 1800s). In contrast, Conewango Valley founded in 1949 is the oldest New York settlement, and is one of only two settlements with more than ten church

districts in the state.

The recent and incredible increase of settlements in New York can be seen in Table 3. Just since January 1, 2010, there are 17 new communities in New York, representing exactly one-fourth of the 69 newly established settlements anywhere in Canada and the United States during the second decade of this century. Another 18 communities which still exist today were started in New York from 2000 to 2009. Before this twenty-first century began, New York played host to only 15 settlements that are still active today. Now, it rivals Pennsylvania and Ohio for the number of existing settlements.

Other states have seen similar increases, including Kentucky and Missouri, each with 21 new settlements founded since 2000. Ohio is not far behind, with 20 new settlements, most of which were established in the southeastern or “Appalachian” counties of the Buckeye state. Other notable host states for the number of new Amish communities in the twenty-first century include Wisconsin (16), Michigan (13), Illinois (12), Iowa (12), Minnesota (10), and Pennsylvania (10).

Each decade since 1970 shows a different state where new communities were concentrated. In the 1970s, the leader was Pennsylvania, and in the 1980s, Michigan hosted more new Amish settlements than any other state / province. By the 1990s, it was Wisconsin and Ohio who witnessed the most settlement growth. During the first decade of the twenty-first century, there was a close four-way race, with New York in the lead, followed by Missouri, Ohio, and Kentucky. And, without question, New York continues to be the “go-to” state since this second decade began.

The number of stars on the map of existing Amish communities graphically shows the unprecedented growth of settlements in New York (see Figure 1). The map also shows the spread of Amish settlements into the southern and western regions of the United States and the northern expansion of communities in Maine, Minnesota, and Ontario.

Table 4 accounts for the net growth of Amish settlements, decade by decade, since 1900. The far left column shows each decade. The next column to the right shows the number of settlements which began during each decade which still exist today. The total for all decades of the twentieth century and up to September 30, 2013, is 454. A total of 472 is achieved when the 18 still existing settlements which were founded prior to 1900 are included.

The next column shows the number of settlements founded during each decade which did not survive, followed by the fourth column from the left, which shows the total number of communities started in each decade. Simply, the numbers in the fourth column are a summation of the second and third columns. Altogether, up to September 30, 2013, a total of 625 settlements were started since 1900, with 171 that did not survive. The 454 which remain active represents a survival rate of nearly 73% and 27% that failed.

The two columns on the right side of Table 4 show settlement growth in a different way. The column on the far right displays the net gain in settlements, decade by decade. It is a number created by subtracting the actual number of settlements which became extinct during a decade (second column from the right) from the total founded. All but one decade (1930 to 1939) shows a net increase in settlements. Since the beginning of the 21st century, the net gain is an incredible 178 settlements, which translates to a gain of one settlement every 3.72 weeks, after accounting for settlements which became extinct during this same period.

Table 5 is a list of recently extinct settlements. Notable on this list is Plain City, Ohio, which was over 100 years old before it ceased to function as a community in 2011. Most of the others were settlements that survived less than 20 years before they became extinct, like Salem, Kentucky (1993 to 2011).

Some of the recently extinct communities have already been replaced. These include Coral, Michigan; Kirksville / Gibbs, Missouri; and Ebensburg / Nicktown, Pennsylvania. The names of the replacement settlements in Table 1, however, may be slightly different, depending on the specific addresses and postal codes of the incoming families, as well as what the new Amish there want their community to be called. Of note is that the settlement of Coral is now a second replacement. The original settlement lasted 17 years (2001 to 2008), followed by one short-lived attempt (2008 to 2011).

In keeping with the tradition of previous editions of *Amish Settlements across America*, we include a number of interesting facts about Amish communities (Table 6). It describes both the rapid growth of settlements and interesting facts about particular states and localities. For example, there are ten settlements which straddle a state border. There are three counties next to each other—Crawford and Mercer Counties in Pennsylvania and Ashtabula County in Ohio—which contain, either completely or partially, 19 distinct Amish communities. This is likely the largest concentration of settlements anywhere.

The last fact (#15) presented in Table 6 is a best guess on the number of settlements there will be in both 2020 and 2050. It seems as though each decade is one where it could be said that “growth won’t get any higher,” and then it does. However, whether the numbers are going up, down or sideways, they are merely hints about the real story. The real story is about family, church, and community, and how the Amish have found room to grow within the North American societies of Canada and the United States.

Table 1: Settlement Location by State / Province

Settlement Location	Year Founded	Church Districts
ARKANSAS		
Salem (Fulton County)	2009	1
Rector (Clay County)	2009	1
COLORADO		
Monte Vista (Rio Grande & Conejos counties)	2002	2
La Jara (Conejos County)	2004	1
Westcliffe (Custer County)	2008	1
Hillside/Cotopaxi (Custer & Fremont counties)	2011	1
DELAWARE		
Dover/Hartly (Kent County)	1915	10
FLORIDA		
Pinecraft (Sarasota County)	1927	1
IDAHO		
Salmon (Lemhi County)	2012	1
ILLINOIS		
Arthur/Arcola (Douglas, Moultrie & Cole Counties)	1864	29
Ava (Jackson & Randolph Counties)	1991	2
Colchester/Macomb (McDonough County)	1993	2
Pleasant Hill/Martinsburg (Pike County)	1994	1
Belle Rive/Opdyke (Jefferson County)	1995	2
Flat Rock (Crawford County)	1995	1
Vienna (Johnson County)	2000	1
Barry (Adams & Pike Counties)	2002	1
Cisne/Fairfield (Wayne County)	2002	1
Cuba/Lewistown (Fulton County)	2005	1
Carbondale (Jackson County)	2006	1
Oblong (Crawford County)	2006	1
Dale/McLeansboro (Hamilton County)	2006	1
Roseville (Warren County)	2007	1
Harrisburg/Galatia (Saline County)	2007	1
Xenia/Orchardville (Clay & Wayne Counties)	2007	2
Johnsonville (Wayne County)	2008	1
Sumner/Olney (Richland & Lawrence Counties)	2010	1
INDIANA		
Elkhart-LaGrange-Noble Counties	1841	153
Nappanee (Elkhart, Kosciusko, Marshall & St Joseph Counties)	1841ca	39
Kokomo/Amboy (Howard & Miami Counties)	1848	2
Berne/Monroe/Geneva (Adams, Jay & Wells Counties, IN & Mercer County, OH)	1850	54
Grabill/New Haven (Allen County)	1852	19

Settlement Location	Year Founded	Church Districts
INDIANA continued		
Montgomery/Odon (Daviess & Martin Counties)	1868	28
Paoli (Orange County)	1957	1
Hamilton (Steuben County, IN & Williams County, OH)	1964	1
Milroy (Rush & Decatur Counties)	1969	3
Salem (Washington County)	1972	1
South Whitley (Whitley County)	1974	2
Salem (Washington County) "Swiss"	1981	3
Vevay (Switzerland & Jefferson Counties) "Swiss"	1987	3
Rockville (Parke County)	1991	7
Hagerstown/Greensfork (Henry, Randolph & Wayne Counties)	1994	8
Orleans (Lawrence & Orange County)	1994	3
Rochester/Akron (Fulton & Miami Counties)	1996	2
Vevay (Switzerland County)	2003	2
English (Crawford County)	2007	1
Holton/Versailles (Ripley County)	2008	1
Mooreland (Henry and Wayne Counties)	2008	1
Gosport (Owen County)	2011	1
IOWA		
Kalona (Johnson & Washington Counties)	1846	10
Hazelton/Fairbank (Buchanan County)	1914	7
Milton/Pulaski (Davis & Van Buren Counties)	1969	3
Bloomfield/Drakesville (Davis County)	1971	9
McIntire/Riceville (Howard & Mitchell Counties)	1975	2
Edgewood (Clayton & Delaware Counties)	1986	3
Chariton/Corydon (Lucas County)	1992	1
Redding (Ringgold County)	1994	2
Seymour (Wayne County, IA & Putnam County, MO)	1996	4
Lamoni/Davis City (Decatur & Ringgold Counties, IA & Harrison County, MO)	1997	3
Waukon (Allamakee County)	2000	1
Diagonal (Ringgold County)	2002	1
Centerville (Appanoose County)	2002	1
Brighton (Jefferson County)	2003	1
Bonaparte (Van Buren County)	2005	2
Murray (Clarke & Union Counties)	2006	1
Northwood (Worth County)	2006	1
Sigourney (Keokuk County)	2010	1
Clermont (Fayette County)	2010	1
Hopkinton/Delhi (Delaware County)	2011	1
Albia (Monroe County)	2011	1
Williamson/Chariton (Lucas County)	2011	1

Settlement Location	Year Founded	Church Districts
KANSAS		
Haven/Yoder (Reno County)	1883	3
Hutchinson (Reno County)	1883	2
Garnett (Anderson County)	1903	2
Fort Scott (Bourbon County)	2005	1
Chetopa (Labette County)	2006	2
Parsons (Labette & Neosho Counties)	2006	2
Marysville/Axtell (Marshall County)	2007	1
KENTUCKY		
Guthrie (Todd County)	1958	3
Crofton (Christian County)	1972	2
Marion (Crittenden County)	1977	4
Dunnville/Columbia (Adair & Casey Counties)	1978	2
Glasgow (Barren County)	1982	1
Park City/Smith's Grove (Barren & Warren Counties)	1984	3
Sonora/Upton (Hardin County)	1986	1
Munfordville/Horse Cave (Grayson & Hart Counties)	1989	14
Hopkinsville/Pembroke (Christian, Logan & Trigg Counties)	1989	9
Hardyville/Three Springs (Hart & Metcalfe Counties)	1991	2
Sonora (Hardin & Larue Counties) "Swartzentruber"	1991	3
Crab Orchard (Lincoln & Rockcastle Counties)	1994	4
Hudson/Harned (Breckinridge County)	1997	2
Lewisburg (Logan County)	1998	2
Hillsboro (Fleming County)	1999	2
Princeton (Caldwell & Lyons Counties)	2001	1
Fancy Farm/Mayfield (Graves & Hickman Counties)	2001	1
Mayfield (Graves County) "Swartzentruber"	2002	1
Cadiz (Trigg County)	2002	1
Turners Station (Carroll & Henry Counties)	2002	1
Campbellsville/Mannsville (Taylor County)	2004	1
Flemingsburg/Poplar Grove (Fleming County) "Swiss"	2004	3
Mays Lick (Mason County)	2004	2
Irvington (Breckinridge County)	2004	1
Auburn (Logan County)	2005	1
Tollesboro/Vanceburg (Lewis County)	2005	1
Carlisle (Nicholas County)	2006	1
Owingsville/ "Preston District" (Bath County) "Swiss"	2006	1
Morgantown (Butler County)	2010	1
Willisburg/Springfield (Washington County)	2010	1
Owingsville/Slate Valley (Bath County) "Troyer"	2011	1
Leitchfield (Grayson County)	2011	1
Hawesville (Hancock County)	2011	1

Settlement Location	Year Founded	Church Districts
KENTUCKY continued		
Gravel Switch (Boyle & Marion County)	2011	1
Liberty (Casey County)	2013	1
Pleasureville (Henry County)	2013	1
MAINE		
Smyrna Mills/Oakfield (Aroostook County)	2000	1
Fort Fairfield (Aroostook County)	2007	1
Unity (Waldo County)	2008	1
Sherman (Aroostook County)	2011	1
Hodgdon (Aroostook County)	2012	1
MARYLAND		
Oakland (Garrett County)	1850	1
Mechanicsville (St. Mary's County)	1940	9
Cecilton (Cecil County)	1999	1
MICHIGAN		
Centreville (St. Joseph County)	1910	11
Camden (Hillsdale County)	1956	4
California Township (Branch County)	1960	6
Mio (Oscoda County)	1970	3
Bronson (Branch County, MI)	1971	1
Greenville/Six Lakes (Montcalm County)	1973	4
Quincy/Coldwater (Branch & Hillsdale Counties)	1977	4
Charlotte/Vermontville (Eaton County)	1977	3
Gladwin/Beaverton (Clare & Gladwin County) "Swartzentruber"	1979	3
Reading/Hillsdale (Branch County)	1979	2
Gladwin (Gladwin County)	1980	3
Clare (Clare & Isabella Counties)	1981	4
Rosebush (Isabella County)	1981	1
Stanwood/Morley (Mecosta County)	1982	6
Blanchard (Isabella County)	1983	2
Marlette/Brown City (Sanilac County)	1987	3
Homer (Calhoun County)	1989	2
Evart/Sears (Osceola County)	1989	1
Fremont/Holton (Newaygo, Muskegon & Oceana Counties)	1990	2
Cass City/Ubly (Huron, Sanilac & Tuscola Counties)	1993	4
Manton (Wexford County)	1993	2
Newaygo (Newaygo County)	1994	2
Marion (Osceola County)	1995	1
Ossineke (Alpena County)	1995	1
Osseo/Pittsford (Hillsdale County)	1997	2
Bloomington (Van Buren County)	1998	1
McBain (Missaukee County)	2000	2

Settlement Location	Year Founded	Church Districts
MICHIGAN continued		
LeRoy (Osceola County)	2000	1
Hersey (Osceola County)	2003	1
Coldwater/Kinderhook (Branch County)	2004	1
Hastings (Barry County)	2006	1
Hale/Whittemore (Iosco County)	2006	1
Vestaburg (Gratiot & Montcalm Counties)	2007	1
Engadine (Mackinac County)	2008	1
North Adams (Hillsdale County)	2010	1
Coral (Montcalm County)	2011	1
Hawks (Presque Isle County)	2012	1
Tustin (Osceola County)	2012	1
Reed City/Chase (Lake & Osceola Counties)	2012	1
MINNESOTA		
Wadena (Otter Tail & Wadena Counties)	1972	2
Bertha/Hewitt (Todd County)	1973	1
Canton /Harmony (Fillmore County)	1974	6
Utica/St. Charles (Winona County)	1975	3
Granger/Cresco (Fillmore County, MN & Howard County, IA)	1993	3
Long Prairie/Osakis (Todd County)	1995	2
Clearbrook/Gonvick (Clearwater County)	2000	1
Clarissa/Browerville (Todd County)	2001	2
Bertha/Staples (Todd County) "Swartzentruber"	2003	1
Frazee/Wolf Lake (Becker County)	2007	2
Fosston (Polk County)	2007	1
Fertile (Norman & Polk Counties)	2007	1
Eagle Bend (Todd County)	2007	1
Mora (Kanabec County)	2011	1
Lengby (Polk County)	2012	1
Milaca (Mille Lacs County)	2012	1
MISSISSIPPI		
Randolph (Pontotoc County)	1995	1
MISSOURI		
Bowling Green/Curryville (Pike County)	1947	3
Jamesport (Daviess County)	1953	8
Clark/Madison (Audrain, Monroe & Randolph Counties)	1954	10
Anabel (Macon County)	1957	1
Seymour/Fordland (Webster County)	1968	15
Windsor (Benton, Henry County, Johnson & Pettis Counties)	1975	3
LaPlata (Adair & Macon Counties)	1976	4
Dixon (Pulaski County)	1980	1
Kahoka (Clark County)	1985	1
Canton (Lewis County)	1986	3

Settlement Location	Year Founded	Church Districts
MISSOURI continued		
Humansville/Dunnegan (Polk County)	1987	1
Carrollton/Bogard (Carroll County)	1990	2
Verona (Lawrence County)	1990	2
Mt. Vernon (Lawrence County)	1995	1
Spickard/Princeton (Grundy County) "Swartzentruber"	1997	3
Mountain Grove (Wright County)	1998	1
Bethany (Harrison County)	1999	1
Stanberry/Ravenwood (Gentry County)	2000	3
Unionville (Putnam County)	2000	1
Harwood/Nevada (Vernon County)	2000	1
Lamar (Barton County)	2002	2
Osceola (St. Clair County)	2002	2
Prairie Home/Boonville (Cooper County)	2003	2
Greentop/Queen City (Schuyler County)	2003	2
El Dorado Springs (Cedar County)	2004	1
Mercer (Mercer County, MO & Decatur County, IA)	2005	1
Hartshorn/Summersville (Shannon County)	2006	1
Keytesville (Chariton County)	2007	1
Bolivar/Flemington (Hickory & Polk Counties)	2007	1
Princeton/Modena (Mercer County)	2007	2
Monroe City (Monroe County)	2008	1
Downing (Schuyler County)	2008	1
Ethel/New Cambria (Macon County)	2009	1
Licking (Texas County)	2009	1
Kirksville/Gibbs (Adair County)	2010	1
El Dorado Springs (Cedar County) "Swartzentruber"	2010	1
Hamilton (Caldwell County)	2011	1
Rocky Comfort (McDonald County)	2012	1
MONTANA		
Rexford (Lincoln County)	1974	1
St. Ignatius (Lake County)	1997	2
Ashland/Forsyth (Rosebud County)	1997	1
Moore/Lewistown (Fergus County)	2008	1
NEBRASKA		
Verdigre (Knox County)	2003	1
Ewing/Orchard (Holt County)	2005	1
Pawnee City (Pawnee County)	2007	1
Verdigre (Knox County) "Swartzentruber"	2010	1
NEW YORK		
Conewango Valley (Cattaraugus County)	1949	15
Norfolk/Norwood (St. Lawrence County)	1974	1
Heuvelton (St. Lawrence County)	1975	12

Settlement Location	Year Founded	Church Districts
NEW YORK continued		
Dewittville/Mayville (Chautauqua County)	1976	2
Cylmer/Panama (Chautauqua County)	1976	8
Prattsburgh (Steuben County)	1979	1
Romulus/Ovid (Seneca County)	1981	4
Friendship/Belfast (Allegany County)	1982	2
Woodhull/Jasper (Steuben County)	1983	7
Fort Plain/Fonda (Montgomery County)	1986	5
Fillmore (Allegany & Wyoming Counties)	1988	4
Addison (Steuben County)	1990	2
Clyde (Seneca & Wayne Counties)	1997	3
Lyndonville/Medina (Orleans County)	1998	2
Lowville (Lewis County)	1999	2
Richfield Springs (Herkimer & Otsego Counties)	2000	2
Malone/Burke (Franklin County)	2002	1
South Columbia Township (Herkimer County)	2002	1
Summer Hill (Cayuga County)	2003	1
Little Falls (Herkimer County)	2004	1
Nicholville/Potsdam (Franklin & St. Lawrence Counties)	2004	2
Fultonville/Glen (Montgomery County)	2005	2
LaFargeville (Jefferson County)	2005	2
Williamstown/Pulaski (Oswego County)	2006	2
Georgetown/Eaton (Madison County)	2006	1
Mohawk Valley/Fort Plain (Montgomery County)	2006	3
Little Valley/East Otto (Cattaraugus County)	2006	1
Canastota (Madison County)	2006	1
Poland (Herkimer & Oneida Counties) "Swartzentruber"	2007	1
Lyons (Wayne County)	2009	1
Bombay (Franklin County)	2009	1
Angelica (Allegany County)	2009	2
Franklinville (Cattaraugus County)	2009	1
Camden/Westdale (Oneida County)	2010	1
North Rose (Wayne County)	2010	1
Oriskany Falls/Augusta (Madison & Oneida Counties)	2010	1
Marathon (Cortland County)	2010	2
Mount Morris (Livingston County)	2010	1
New Berlin (Chenango & Otsego Counties)	2010	2
Springwater/Dansville (Livingston County)	2010	1
Mayville (Chautauqua County)	2011	1
Ellenburg Center (Clinton County)	2011	1
Remsen/Rome/Holland Patent (Oneida County)	2011	1
Delevan (Cattaraugus County) "Swartzentruber"	2011	1

Settlement Location	Year Founded	Church Districts
NEW YORK continued		
Frewsburg (Chautauqua County)	2011	1
Philadelphia (Jefferson County)	2012	1
Lee Center/Ava (Oneida County)	2012	1
Pulteney/Hammondsport (Steuben County)	2012	1
Wellsville (Alleghany County)	2013	1
Lyons (Wayne County) "Troyer"	2013	1
NORTH CAROLINA		
Union Grove (Iredell & Yadkin Counties)	1985	1
OHIO		
Greater Holmes (Coshocton, Holmes, Stark, Tuscarawas, & Wayne Counties)	1808	238
Greater Geauga (Ashtabula, Geauga, Portage & Trumbull Counties)	1886	105
Hicksville (Defiance County)	1914	1
Lodi/Homerville (Ashland, Medina & Wayne Counties)	1952	14
Kenton/Mt. Victory (Hardin & Marion Counties)	1953	8
Ashland/Shiloh (Ashland, Huron & Richland Counties)	1954	6
Lakeville/Big Prairie (Holmes County)	1962	3
Danville/Butler (Knox & Richland Counties)	1964	5
Peoli/Port Washington (Guernsey & Tuscarawas Counties) "Swartzentruber"	1969	3
Fredericktown/Bellville (Knox, Morrow & Richland Counties)	1972	11
Belle Center (Logan County)	1974	3
Kinsman (Trumbull County, OH & Mercer County, PA)	1975	1
West Union (Adams County)	1976	4
Chesterhill/Stockport (Morgan County)	1978	1
Carrollton (Carroll County)	1982	4
Lewisville (Monroe County)	1987	6
Utica/Gambier (Knox & Licking Counties)	1987	4
Laurelville/Kingston (Hocking & Pickaway Counties)	1988	1
Bremen (Fairfield County)	1989	1
Brinkhaven/Danville (Holmes & Knox Counties)	1990	4
Walhonding/Warsaw (Coshocton & Knox Counties)	1990	1
Loudonville/McKay (Ashland County)	1991	1
Dorset/Cherry Valley (Ashtabula County)	1991	2
Salesville/Quaker City (Guernsey County)	1991	2
Andover (Ashtabula County)	1992	2
Barnesville (Belmont & Monroe Counties)	1993	2
Gallipolis (Gallia County)	1993	5
Glenmont/Brinkhaven (Coshocton & Holmes County)	1994	2
Pierpont/Conneaut (Ashtabula County, OH & Crawford County, PA)	1994	5
De Graff (Logan County)	1994	3
Beaver (Pike County)	1994	2

Settlement Location	Year Founded	Church Districts
OHIO continued		
Adamsville (Muskingum County)	1997	2
Williamsfield (Ashtabula County)	1997	1
Middlebourne (Guernsey County)	1998	2
Howard/"East Knox" (Knox County)	2000	3
Oak Hill (Jackson County)	2001	2
Scio (Harrison County)	2001	2
Piedmont (Belmont & Harrison County)	2001	1
McArthur (Vinton County)	2003	1
Vinton (Gallia and Vinton Counties)	2004	1
Kilgore (Carroll County)	2005	2
Hillsboro/Leesburg (Highland County)	2006	2
Somerset/Glenford (Perry County)	2006	1
Peeples/Hillsboro (Adams & Highland Counties)	2006	1
Pomeroy (Meigs County)	2006	1
Freeport (Harrison County)	2006	1
Newcomerstown (Tuscarawas County)	2007	1
Londonderry (Ross & Vinton Counties)	2007	1
Frazesburg (Muskingum County)	2007	1
Pleasant City (Guernsey & Noble Counties)	2007	1
Cherry Valley (Ashtabula County)	2010	1
Marshall/Hillsboro (Highland County)	2010	1
Rogers (Columbiana County)	2010	1
Jefferson (Ashtabula County)	2011	1
OKLAHOMA		
Chouteau/Inola (Mayes & Rogers Counties)	1910	4
Clarita/Coalgate (Coal County)	1978	1
Welch (Craig County)	2010	1
Westville (Adair County)	2012	1
ONTARIO		
Milverton/Millbank (Perth & Waterloo Counties)	1824	9
Aylmer (Elgin County)	1953	3
Norwich (Oxford County)	1954	4
Chesley (Grey County) "Swartzentruber"	1954	3
Lakeside/St. Mary's (Oxford County)	1958	1
Mossley (Middlesex County)	1962	2
Lucknow (Bruce & Huron Counties)	1973	5
Chesley (Bruce & Grey Counties)	1979	1
Kincardine/Tiverton (Bruce County)	1995	2
Clifford/Harriston (Perth & Wellington Counties)	1998	1
Cameron/Lindsay (Victoria County)	1998	1
Powassan (Parry Sound County)	2001	1
Stirling/Belleville (Hastings County)	2005	1

Settlement Location	Year Founded	Church Districts
ONTARIO continued		
Iron Bridge (Algoma County)	2008	1
Englehart/New Liskeard (Timiskaming District)	2009	1
Earlton (Timiskaming District)	2013	1
PENNSYLVANIA		
Lancaster/Chester Counties	ca. 1760	187
Meyersdale/Springs (Somerset County, PA & Garrett County, MD)	ca. 1772	5
Belleville/Reedsville (Huntingdon & Mifflin Counties)	1791	26
New Wilmington (Lawrence & Mercer Counties)	1847	19
Enon Valley (Beaver & Lawrence Counties)	1924	1
Atlantic (Crawford & Mercer Counties)	1924	7
Myerstown (Berks & Lebanon Counties)	1941	7
Mercer/Soneboro (Mercer County)	1942	5
Mifflintown/Port Royal (Juniata County)	1950	9
Aaronsburg/Woodward (Centre County)	1950	3
Winfield (Snyder & Union Counties)	1959	1
Smicksburg (Armstrong & Indiana Counties)	1962	20
McClure (Snyder County)	1965	3
Spartansburg (Crawford, Erie & Warren Counties)	1966	10
LeRaysville/Rome (Bradford County)	1966	1
Rebersburg/"Brush Valley" (Centre County)	1967	6
Dry Run/"Path Valley" (Franklin County)	1968	5
Conneautville (Crawford County)	1969	2
Sugar Grove (Warren County, PA & Chautauqua County, NY)	1969	8
Turbotville/Danville (Montour & Northumberland Counties)	1970	3
Newburg/Cumberland Valley (Cumberland & Franklin Counties)	1971	6
Guys Mills (Crawford County)	1972	3
Troutville/Punxsutawney (Clearfield & Jefferson Counties)	1972	12
Loganton/"Sugar Valley" (Clinton County)	1972	7
Tionesta/Fryburg (Forest County)	1972	2
Howard/Mill Hall "Nittany Valley" (Centre & Clinton Counties)	1973	6
Bloomsburg/Danville (Columbia, Montour & Northumberland Counties)	1974	4
Delta (York County)	1975	3
Loysville/Blain (Perry County)	1975	5
Allenwood/"White Deer Valley" (Lycoming & Northumberland Counties)	1976	4
Millersburg/"Lykens Valley" (Dauphin & Schuylkill Counties)	1978	8
Spring Mills/"Penns Valley" (Centre County)	1979	3
Pocahontas (Somerset County)	1980	1
Union City (Crawford & Erie Counties)	1983	2
Clintonville/Harrisville (Venango County)	1983	3
Williamsport/"Nippenose Valley" (Clinton & Lycoming Counties)	1985	2

Settlement Location	Year Founded	Church Districts
PENNSYLVANIA continued		
Linesville (Crawford County)	1985	2
Tyrone/Sinking Valley (Blair County)	1988	2
Fredonia/Greenville (Mercer County)	1990	2
Berlin/Shanksville (Somerset County)	1992	1
Dornsife (Northumberland County)	1993	2
Paxinos/ "Irish Valley" (Northumberland County)	1997	1
Homer City (Indiana County)	1997	1
Uylsses (Potter County)	1998	2
Hazen/Brookville (Jefferson County)	1999	3
Emlenton/Sligo (Clarion County)	2000	2
Knox (Clarion County)	2000	3
Canton (Bradford County)	2001	1
Ringgold/Mayport (Armstrong & Jefferson Counties)	2002	1
Johnsonburg/Rossiter (Jefferson County)	2005	3
Saegertown/Cambridge Springs (Crawford County)	2006	1
Greenville (Mercer County)	2006	1
Carlton (Mercer County)	2010	1
Nicktown/North Cambria (Cambria County)	2013	1
Westover (Clearfield County)	2013	1
SOUTH DAKOTA		
Tripp (Hutchinson County)	2010	1
TENNESSEE		
Ethridge (Lawrence County)	1944	10
Huntingdon/Bruceton (Carroll)	1975	1
McKenzie (Carroll & Weakley Counties)	1998	1
Summertown (Lewis County)	2000	1
Adamsville (McNairy County)	2009	1
Bradford (Gibson County)	2009	1
Deer Lodge (Morgan County)	2013	1
TEXAS		
Beeville (Bee County)	1999	1
VIRGINIA		
Pearisburg (Giles County)	1993	1
Charlotte Court House (Charlotte County)	1997	2
Nathalie (Halifax County)	2005	2
Rose Hill/Jonesville (Lee County)	2008	1
Tazewell/Burkes Garden (Tazewell County)	2012	1
Chatham (Pittsylvania County)	2013	1
WEST VIRGINIA		
Letart (Mason County)	1996	1
Palestine (Wirt County)	2004	1
Forest Hill/Hinton (Summers County)	2006	1

Settlement Location	Year Founded	Church Districts
WISCONSIN		
Medford (Taylor County)	1920	3
Blair (Trempealeau County)	1960	3
Cashton (Monroe & Vernon Counties)	1966	13
Wilton/Tomah (Monroe County)	1969	8
Spencer (Clark & Marathon Counties)	1970	1
Chetek (Barron County)	1974	1
Greenwood/Willard (Clark County)	1975	3
Evansville/Brodhead (Green & Rock Counties)	1975	1
Kingston/Dalton (Columbia, Green Lake & Marquette Counties)	1977	12
Augusta/Fairfield (Eau Claire County)	1978	8
Granton (Clark County)	1981	6
Wautoma/Coloma (Marquette/Waushara Counties)	1983	4
Hillsboro (Richland & Vernon Counties)	1985	8
Bonduel (Shawano County)	1987	2
LaValle (Sauk County)	1988	3
Loganville (Sauk County)	1988	2
Loyal (Clark County) "Swartzentruber"	1989	5
Readstown (Crawford, Richland & Vernon Counties)	1990	3
Athens (Marathon & Taylor Counties)	1990	2
Mondovi (Buffalo & Pepin Counties)	1991	2
Owen/Unity (Clark County)	1991	1
New Holstein/Elkhart Lake (Calumet & Fond du Lac Counties)	1992	1
Viroqua/Dach Ridge (Vernon County)	1992	1
Beetown/Bloomington (Grant County)	1993	1
Chaseburg/Viroqua (Vernon County)	1994	3
Lookout/Wulff Valley (Buffalo County)	1995	1
Marion (Waupaca County)	1995	2
Livingston (Grant County)	1997	1
New Auburn (Chippewa County)	1997	2
Fennimore (Grant County)	1998	3
Taylor (Jackson & Trempealeau Counties)	1998	2
Edgar/Stratford (Marathon County)	1999	1
Platteville/Darlington (Grant & Lafayette Counties)	1999	5
Milladore (Portage & Wood Counties)	2000	1
Reedsville (Manitowoc County)	2002	1
Ettrick/Franklin (Jackson County)	2002	1
Cornell (Chippewa County)	2002	1
Sheldon (Rusk & Taylor Counties)	2002	1
Arpin/Vesper (Wood County)	2002	2
Bangor (LaCrosse & Monroe Counties)	2003	1
Black River Falls (Jackson County)	2004	1
Neillsville (Clark County)	2005	1

Settlement Location	Year Founded	Church Districts
WISCONSIN continued		
Gilman (Taylor County)	2007	1
Lublin (Taylor County)	2008	1
Prairie Farms/Clear Lake (Barron and Polk Counties)	2011	1
Frederic (Polk County)	2012	1
Woodville (St. Croix County)	2012	1
Luck (Polk County)	2013	1
Monroe (Green County)	2013	1
WYOMING		
Hulett (Crook County)	2011	1

Table 2: Amish Settlements and Church Districts by State / Province

State	Settlements	Districts
Arkansas	2	2
Colorado	4	5
Delaware	1	10
Florida	1	1
Idaho	1	1
Illinois	18	50
Indiana	22	335
Iowa	22	57
Kansas	7	13
Kentucky	36	78
Maine	5	5
Maryland	3	11
Michigan	39	92
Minnesota	16	29
Mississippi	1	1
Missouri	38	87
Montana	4	5
Nebraska	4	4
New York	50	115
North Carolina	1	1
Ohio	54	475
Oklahoma	4	7
Ontario	16	37
Pennsylvania	55	430
South Dakota	1	1
Tennessee	7	16
Texas	1	1
Virginia	6	8
West Virginia	3	3
Wisconsin	49	131
Wyoming	1	1
Total	472	2,012

Table 3: Chronology of Existing Settlements by State / Province

State	Before 1900	1900 - 1909	1910 - 1919	1920 - 1929	1930 - 1939	1940 - 1949	1950 - 1959	1960 - 1969	1970 - 1979	1980 - 1989	1990 - 1999	2000 - 2009	2010- 2013	Total
Arkansas												2		2
Colorado												3	1	4
Delaware			1											1
Florida				1										1
Idaho													1	1
Illinois	1										5	11	1	18
Indiana	6						1	2	2	2	4	4	1	22
Iowa	1		1					1	2	1	4	7	5	22
Kansas	2	1										4		7
Kentucky							1		3	5	6	13	8	36
Maine												3	2	5
Maryland	1					1					1			3
Michigan			1				1	1	7	8	8	8	5	39
Minnesota									4		2	7	3	16
Mississippi											1			1
Missouri						1	3	1	2	4	6	17	4	38
Montana									1		2	1		4
Nebraska												3	1	4
New York						1			5	5	4	18	17	50
North Carolina										1				1
Ohio	2		1				3	3	5	5	15	16	4	54
Oklahoma			1						1				2	4
Ontario	1						4	1	2		3	4	1	16
Pennsylvania	4			2		2	3	8	13	6	7	7	3	55
South Dakota													1	1
Tennessee						1			1		1	3	1	7
Texas											1			1
Virginia											2	2	2	6
West Virginia											1	2		3
Wisconsin				1				3	6	7	16	11	5	49
Wyoming													1	1
Total	18	1	5	4	0	6	16	20	54	44	89	146	69	472
Percent *	3.8	0.2	1.1	0.8	0.0	1.3	3.4	4.2	11.4	9.3	18.9	30.9	14.6	100.0
Cumulative Total	18	19	24	28	28	34	50	70	124	168	257	403	472	-
Cumulative Percent*	3.8	4.0	5.1	5.9	5.9	7.2	10.6	14.8	26.3	35.6	54.4	85.4	100.0	-

*Minor differences between the “percent” row and the “cumulative percent” row are due to rounding error

Table 4: Net Growth of Settlements by Decade since 1900

Time Period	Founded during, Existing Today	Founded during, Extinct Today	Total Founded	Extinct during	Net Gain / Loss
1900-1909	1	15	16	10	+6
1910-1919	5	11	16	15	+1
1920-1929	4	11	15	12	+3
1930-1939	0	4	4	13	-9
1940-1949	6	8	14	9	+5
1950-1959	16	10	26	10	+16
1960-1969	20	21	41	14	+27
1970-1979	54	19	73	16	+57
1980-1989	44	24	68	14	+54
1990-1999	89	36	125	35	+90
2000-2009	146	11	157	36	+121
2010-present (as of 9/30/13)	69	2	71	15	+56
Total	454	171	625	198	427
Prior to 1900*	18	27	-	-	-

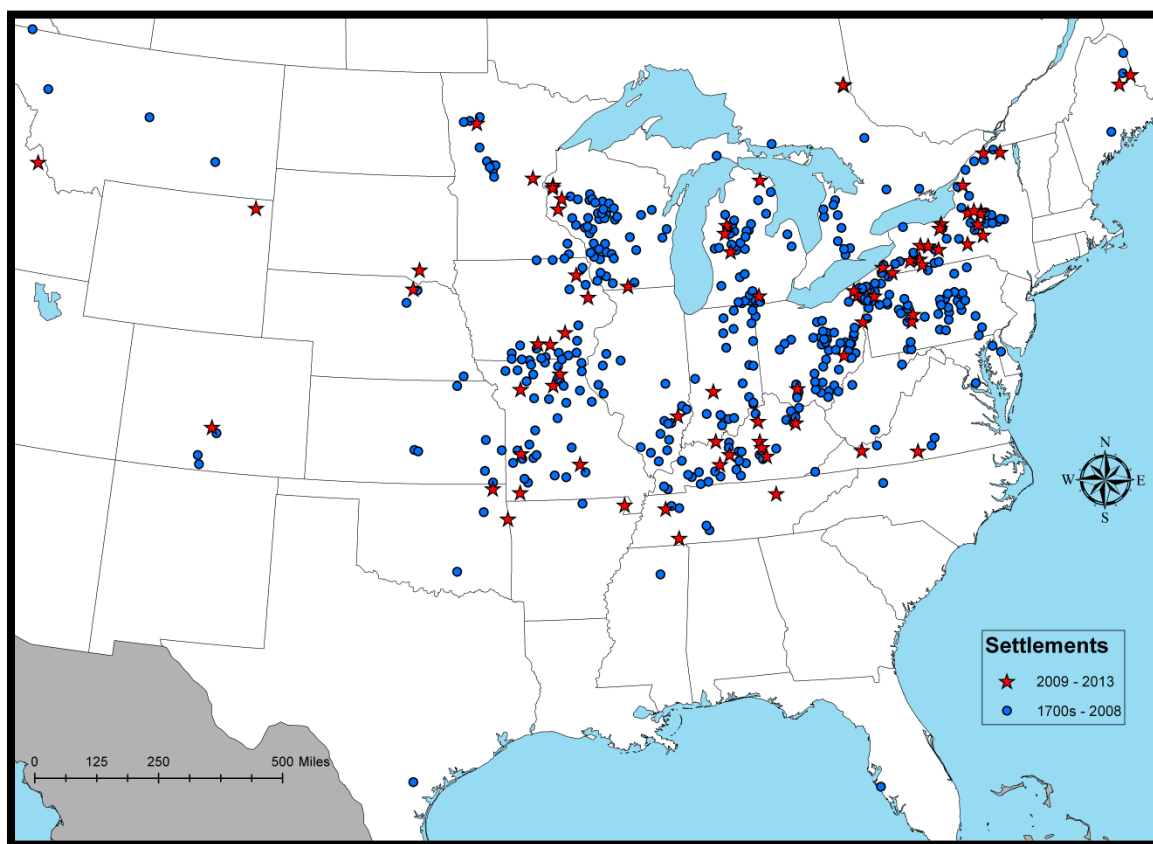
*Eighteen is the number of settlements founded prior to 1900 that still exist today. Twenty-seven is the number of settlements founded prior to the twentieth century that became extinct anytime after 1900.

Table 5: List of Recently Extinct Settlements

Ebensburg / Nicktown (Cambria County), Pennsylvania, 1997-2013
Princeton (Lawrence County), Pennsylvania, 2010-2011
Worthington (Greene County), Indiana 1993-2012
Tyrone (Schuyler County), New York, 2010-2012
Townville (Crawford County), Pennsylvania, 1972-2012
Vallonia (Jackson County), Indiana, 1998-2011
Centertown (Ohio County), Kentucky, 2007-2011
Salem (Livingston County), Kentucky, 1993-2011
Coral (Montcalm County), Michigan, 2008-2011
Ludington (Mason County), Michigan, 1981-2011
Plain City, Madison County, Ohio, 1896-2011
Kirksville / Gibbs (Adair County), Missouri, 2000-2010
Wheatland (Hickory County), Missouri, 1994-2010
Whitehall (Jefferson County), Montana, 2001-2010
Beallsville (Monroe County), Ohio, 2007-2010
Mt. Vernon (Jefferson County), Illinois, 1987-2009

Table 6: Fifteen Amish Settlement Facts

<p>1. The first Amish settlement directory was published in the December 1974 issue of <i>Family Life</i>. It listed 112 settlements and 444 church districts. There are now over 4.2 times as many settlements (472) and 4.5 times (2,012) as many church districts as then (Table 1).</p> <p>2. The oldest existing settlement is Lancaster/Chester Counties, PA, founded ca. 1760. Pennsylvania is the only state with settlements still existing today that were founded in the 1700s. Indiana has more settlements founded during the 1800s than any other state (Table 1).</p> <p>3. The largest settlement is spread across five counties of northeast Ohio, including Holmes, Wayne, Tuscarawas, Coshocton, and Stark (Table 1).</p> <p>4. At the present time, the Rexford, Montana, settlement is both the northernmost and the westernmost settlement. The southernmost settlement is Pinecraft, Florida, and the easternmost settlement is Fort Fairfield, Maine.</p> <p>5. Since 2008, new states to host Amish settlements for the first time ever include South Dakota and Wyoming (Table 1).</p> <p>6. There are many Amish settlements that straddle a county line but only ten which are multi-state. These include Berne / Monroe / Geneva (IN & OH), Hamilton (IN & OH), Seymour (IA & MO), Lamoni / Davis City (IA & MO), Granger / Cresco (MN & IA), Mercer (MO & IA), Kinsman (OH & PA), Pierpont / Conneaut (OH & PA), Meyersdale / Springs (PA & MD), and Sugar Grove (PA & NY). There are several other settlements that may have one or two households on the other side of a state line which are not on this list (Table 1).</p> <p>7. There are five states with more than 100 church districts. These include Ohio, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Wisconsin, and New York (Table 2).</p> <p>8. There are now four settlements with 100 or more church districts: Greater Holmes County, OH; Lancaster / Chester Counties, PA; Elkhart-LaGrange-Noble Counties, IN; and Greater Geauga County, OH (Table 1).</p> <p>9. In 1974, 69 of the 112 settlements contained only one church district. In 2008, 208 of the 402 settlements contained one church district. There are now 245 settlements with one church district, 90 settlements with two church districts, 110 with three to nine church districts, and 27 settlements, including the four largest, with at least ten church districts. These 27 settlements can be found in 12 different states (Table 1).</p>	<p>10. There are 11 states and the province of Ontario that contain at least ten Amish settlements. Pennsylvania is the leader with 55, followed by Ohio (54), New York (50), and Wisconsin (49) (Table 2).</p> <p>11. The county containing the most Amish settlements is Crawford (PA). Eight settlements are completely or partially located there, including one multi-state settlement. Mercer County, which is the next county south in Pennsylvania, contains all or part of seven settlements, also with one multi-state community. Plus, it shares one settlement with Crawford County. Adjoining Crawford County to the west is Ashtabula County, OH, which includes all or part of seven settlements, sharing Pierpont/Conneaut with Crawford County, PA. Altogether, these three counties are the home to 19 distinct settlements. Localities playing host to six settlements (completely or partially) are Knox County, OH, Osceola County, MI, and Clark County, WI (Table 1).³</p> <p>12. Only 7.2% of existing settlements were founded before 1950, and 28.3% began sometime during the next four decades. Nearly one in five (18.9%) were established in the 1990s, 30.9% during 2000 to 2009, and 14.6% since January 1, 2010 (Table 3).</p> <p>13. Every decade, beginning with the 1940s, has witnessed a net increase in Amish settlements. That is seven consecutive decades (Table 4)!</p> <p>14. Of the 80 existing settlements founded since 2009, 30 are located in counties where there has never been a settlement before, and 50 in counties that already contained a settlement, or one was previously there which became extinct at least several years before the next settlement was established. Hence, it is not a replacement settlement, which are new settlements established about a year after the previous one becomes extinct (Table 1).⁴</p> <p>15. Accounting for all settlements, both those founded and extinct during the past 23 years and nine months, there is a net gain of one new settlement every 4.64 weeks. This is a conservative estimate because the net gain of settlements (Table 4) was higher in this century than during the 1990s. Nonetheless, a net gain of one per every 4.64 weeks means a projected number of settlements at about 542 by 2020, and nearly 900 by 2050.⁵</p>
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Figure 1: Existing Settlements as of September 20, 2013

Endnotes

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²Waldrep (2008, 413) describes para-Amish as groups who have:

“...maintained a set of doctrinal positions and material standards, including the horse-and buggy, that closely parallel those of the Old Order Amish. In each case, though, differences of emphasis, practice, leadership, or setting precluded their being embraced by any other Amish group.”

³A list of the “Twenty-Five Most Amish Counties” can be found in the first issue of *JAPAS* (see Donnermeyer, Anderson & Cooksey, 2013, Table 8). It shows Vernon County, Wisconsin, with six settlements; however, one (LaValle) was almost completely in Sauk County, with only a small population in Vernon. We did not include this in our current considerations. There are a

number of other settlements where a small percentage lives in an adjoining county, but too small to be considered significant.

⁴Discerning readers may notice that the numbers do not quite add up to a net gain of 70 settlements as stated in the first paragraph of this article. The reason is simple: as more information becomes available, what was listed as a settlement previously was not ever one because a third family did not move there, or we subsequently discovered that what looked like a new settlement was actually a few families near the edge of an established community who had a different address and postal code. Although we strive for accuracy, we recognize that mistakes can be made. When discovered, they are corrected.

⁵A similar set of projections were made in the first issue of *JAPAS* by Donnermeyer, Anderson and Cooksey (2013) (see Table 9). These projections represent settlement growth adjusted for the years since 2010. The differences between the estimates in that article and here are miniscule when considered in the context that settlement growth, unless other factors intervene, will remain high for the foreseeable future.

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